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FANS DON'T LET FANS DRIVE DRUNK

Pass Your Keys to a Designated Driver This Super Bowl Sunday

RALEIGH — The Governor's Highway Safety Program announced today that they are joining forces with state and local law enforcement officers to remind everyone to act responsibly by designating a sober driver if they plan on using alcohol this Super Bowl weekend.

"We want to remind everyone this weekend that real *Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk*," said Darrell Jernigan, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program. "If you plan on drinking alcohol while cheering for your team, pass your keys to a sober, designated driver before the Super Bowl party begins."

Super Bowl Sunday is one of America's most entertaining national sporting events where friends and families gather to socialize and watch the big game. It is also one of the nation's most dangerous days on the roadways due to impaired driving.

In North Carolina during 2007's Super Bowl weekend there were 83 alcohol-related crashes and one fatality due to an alcohol related crash.

The Governor's Highway Safety Program offers the following tips for making Super Bowl Sunday a safe one:

If you are hosting a Super Bowl party:

- Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you served ends up in an impaired driving crash.
- Make sure all of your guests designate their sober drivers in advance, or help arrange ride-sharing with other sober drivers.
- Include non-alcoholic beverages at the party.
- Keep the numbers for local cab companies handy, and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving while impaired.

If you are attending a Super Bowl party or watching at a sports bar or restaurant:

- Designate your sober driver before the party begins and give that person your car keys.
- If you don't have a designated driver, ask a sober friend for a ride home; call a cab, friend or family member to come and get you;
- Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired. Remember, *Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk*.
- Always buckle up – it's still your best defense against other impaired drivers.

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For more information about this or other highway safety issues, contact Communications Officer Beth Horner at (919) 733-3083, or visit the GHSP Web site at: www.ncdot.org/programs/ghsp.